

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel, without prejudice or disclaimer, claims ~~31-42~~, and amend claims 43, 44, 46, 47, 59, and 60, as follows:

C 546
D7

43. (once amended) A carcass structure for tyres, comprising:
at least one carcass ply comprising strip sections circumferentially distributed around a geometric rotation axis of the tyre,
wherein each strip section comprises at least two thread elements disposed longitudinally and in parallel to each other and at least partly coated with at least one layer of raw elastomer material, and
wherein each of the strip sections extends in a substantially U-shaped conformation around a cross-section outline of the carcass structure to define two side portions spaced apart from each other in an axial direction and a crown portion extending at a radially-outer position between the side portions; and
a pair of annular reinforcing structures each engaged at areas close to a respective inner circumferential edge of the at least one carcass ply and comprising:
an annular anchoring insert, substantially in a form of an annulus, disposed coaxially with the carcass structure and adjacent to the respective inner circumferential edge of the at least one carcass ply;
wherein the annular anchoring insert is formed of:
at least one elongated element extending in concentric coils; and
a filling body of raw elastomer material joined to the annular anchoring insert.

Sub
EL

44. (once amended) The carcass structure of claim 43, wherein the at least one carcass
ply comprises:

a first series of strip sections and a second series of strip sections disposed in a mutually-
alternating sequence along a circumferential extension of the carcass structure,

each annular reinforcing structure having an axially-inner side turned towards end flaps
of the strip sections of the first series and an axially-outer side turned towards end flaps of the
strip sections of the second series.

Sub
EL

46. (once amended) The carcass structure of claim 45, wherein the side portions of each
strip section of the first series are each partly covered with a side portion of at least one adjacent
strip section of the second series at a stretch included between a radially-outer edge of respective
annular reinforcing structures and a transition region between the side portions and the crown
portion of the strip sections of the first series.

47. (once amended) The carcass structure of claim 46, wherein covering of the side
portions of each strip section of the first series progressively decreases starting from a maximum
value close to the radially-outer edge of the respective annular reinforcing structures until
reaching a zero value at the transition region between the side portions and the crown portion of
the strip sections of the first series.

FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com

C3 59. (once amended) A tyre having a carcass structure made by a method comprising the steps of:

preparing strip sections each comprising longitudinal and parallel thread elements at least partly coated with at least one layer of raw elastomer material;

making at least one carcass ply by laying down and circumferentially distributing the strip sections on a toroidal support, each of the strip sections extending in a U-shaped configuration around a cross-section outline of the toroidal support, to define two side portions mutually-spaced-apart in an axial direction and a crown portion extending at a radially-outer position between the side portions; and

applying annular reinforcing structures to areas close to inner circumferential edges of the at least one carcass ply;

wherein formation of each annular reinforcing structure comprises the steps of:

laying down at least one elongated element in concentric coils to form an annular anchoring insert substantially in a form of an annulus;

forming at least one filling body of raw elastomer material; and

joining the at least one filling body to the annular anchoring insert.

60. (once amended) A tyre having the carcass structure of claim 43.

FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com